given below:

Commodity	Percentage variation (15.7.2000/17.7.1999)
Rice	—0.5
Wheat	5.2
Gram	19.7
Arhar	—10.5
Potato	—15.9
Onion	—47.2
Tea	—17.8
Sugar	5.5
Salt	—18.3
Vanaspati	—11.6
Groundnut Oil	2.2
Mustard Oil	—13.2

(b) The Government has taken a number of steps to control the prices and augment the availability of essential commodities in the country. Apart from certain long terms measures to increase production of essential goods, import of items having gap in their demand and supply, like pulses have been placed under OGL at zero per cent import duty. Export of onion has been placed under quantitative restriction. Some of the essential commodities like rice, wheat, palmolein, sugar and kerosene are also supplied through the outlets of public distribution system. Stringent actions are being taken against hoarders, black marketeers and others indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act by the State/UT Governments.

Overdue amount of loan for Cane Development

1290. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total of overdue amount in respect of cane development loan as on 30th September, 1999;

(b) what was the amount received between 1st October, 1999 and 31st December, 1999 and what was the balance outstanding as on 31st December, 1999; and

(c) what was the overall recovery percentage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Total SDF overdues amount in respect of cane development loan as on 30.9.99 was Rs. 10351.56 lakhs.

(b) The amount received between 1.10.99 to 31.12.99 was Rs. 1874.35 lakhs and the balance outstanding as on 31.12.99 was Rs. 8477.21 lakhs.

(c) Recovery percentage during the period was 18.10 of the overdues as on 30.9.99.

Production of Mustard Oil Seed

1291. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of mustard oil seeds in the country;

(b) which are the main producing States alongwith quantities produced by each State;

(c) whether storage capacity in each State is sufficiently available or there is any shortfall anywhere;

(d) whether it is a fact that there was storage problem in some districts of Madhya Pradesh, if so, what immediate remedy was provided;

(e) whether there is any plan to make required storage capacity available at such problem places; and

(f) if so, by what time it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMBER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The total production of mustard oil seeds in the country is 56.7 lakh MT in the year 1999-2000.

(b) The main producing States of mustard oilseeds are Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The production of these States are 24.33 lakh MT, 10.87 lakh MT and 7.02 lakh MT respectively.